

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-07
TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 OES-07 DLOS-09 L-03
CG-00 DOTE-00 SS-15 /109 W
-----064509 202222Z /64

R 201917Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5583
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

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USEEC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EEC, FG, EFIS
SUBJ: SHRIMPING OFF FRENCH GUIANA

REF: 77 BRUSSELS 18534

1. FRENCH PERMREP FISHERY OFFICIAL LOTT CALLED MISSION
OFFICER MARCH 17 TO SAY GOF HAS JUST LEARNED THAT U.S.
SHRIMPING VESSELS WILL "SOON BE DENIED ACCESS" TO
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BRAZILIAN WATERS. HE SAID THAT, SINCE U.S. VESSELS
HAVE HISTORICALLY TAKEN 75 PERCENT OF THEIR SHRIMP
CATCHES OFF BRAZIL, THE FRENCH ARE CONCERNED THIS
BRAZILIAN ACTION WILL RESULT IN OVERFISHING IN WATERS OFF
FRENCH GUIANA. HE SUGGESTED THAT, IF THE BRAZILIAN
MEASURES ARE CONFIRMED, THE FRENCH MAY TELL THEIR EC
PARTNERS THAT LICENSES FOR SHRIMPING OFF FRENCH GUIANA

AFTER MAY 31 SHOULD BE LIMITED TO THOSE VESSELS (ALL U.S. FLAG) WHICH LAND THEIR CATCHES IN CAYENNE. HE ADDED THAT "OUR ONLY INTEREST IS IN KEEPING THE PROCESSING INDUSTRY GOING." ALL VESSELS NOT LANDING THEIR CATCHES IN CAYENNE (INCLUDING 30 U.S. VESSELS NOW OPERATING UNDER FISHING PLAN LICENSES AND ALL OTHER FOREIGN FLAG VESSELS NOW LICENSED) WOULD BE DENIED ACCESS TO WATERS OFF FRENCH GUIANA UNDER SUCH A PROPOSAL.

2. LOTT SAID THAT THIS POSSIBLE COURSE OF ACTION REPRESENTS ONLY HIS "PERSONAL VIEW," THAT HE HAS NO INSTRUCTIONS ON THE MATTER, BUT THAT THE IDEA IS NOW GAINING SOME CURRENCY IN PARIS. HE SAID HE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY CONFIRMATION OF BRAZILIAN ACTION AGAINST U.S. VESSELS THAT WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE. MISSION OFFICER INDICATED THAT HE HAD NO INFORMATION WHICH HE COULD PASS TO LOTT, BUT UNDERTOOK TO CONVEY LOTT'S REMARKS TO DEPARTMENT.

3. MISSION COMMENT: WE PASS ON LOTT'S COMMENTS WITH QUALIFICATION THAT THEY DO REPRESENT TENTATIVE, AND PERHAPS LARGELY PERSONAL VIEW. WE NOTE THAT LOTT PAINTED SIMILAR GLOOMY PICTURE CONCERNING NEED TO RESTRICT FRENCH GUIANA SHRIMPING WHEN HE TOLD US LAST DECEMBER (REFTEL) THAT FRENCH WOULD RECOMMEND AN OVERALL LIMIT OF 70 THIRD COUNTRY VESSELS TO BE LICENSED. FINAL COUNCIL DECISION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN JANUARY WAS NOT NEARLY SO RESTRICTIVE.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE FROM DEPARTMENT ON RESPONDING TO LOTT'S INQUIRY REGARDING STATUS OF U.S. SHRIMPING OFF BRAZILIAN COAST. MORRIS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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